

Appropriating His Righteousness as Ours !

“Let every one who claims to believe that the Lord is soon coming, search the Scriptures as never before; **for Satan is determined** to try every device possible to keep souls in darkness, and blind the mind to the perils of the times in which we are living. Let every believer take up his Bible with earnest prayer, that he may be enlightened by the Holy Spirit as to what is Truth, that he may know more of God and of Jesus Christ Whom He has sent (John 14:6 and 8:21-24). **Search for the Truth** as for hidden treasures, and disappoint the enemy.

The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. **This is the beginning of the Light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth.** For it is the work of every one to whom the message of warning has come, to lift up Jesus, to present Him to the world as revealed in types, as shadowed in symbols, as manifested in the revelations of the prophets, as unveiled in the lessons given to His disciples and in the wonderful miracles wrought for the sons of men. Search the Scriptures; for they are they that testify of Him.

If you would stand through the time of trouble, you must know Christ, and appropriate the gift of His righteousness, which He imputes to the repentant sinner.

-The Review and Herald, Nov. 22, 1892. {1SM 363.1}

Quote -

“**As you stand here today**, and see the defects of your characters in the Light of God's great moral standard, will you not say, “I will redeem the past; I will go to work in the Lord’s vineyard?” By living (active) faith will you not grasp the promises of God, and appropriate Christ’s righteousness, and find the Light of heaven shining in your life?

You are to bring Christ into your every thought and action. A defective link in a chain makes it worthless, and a defect in your character will unfit you to enter the kingdom of heaven. You must set everything in order. But you cannot do this great work without divine aid. **Are you ready to accept the promises of God**, and to make them your own by living faith in His immutable Word ? ref: John 17:17

You should walk by faith, not by feeling. {RH, April 9, 1889 par. 9}

Quote -

“We are to watch unto prayer, and our earnest efforts to overcome evil in our character, will make manifest the sincerity of our prayers. We are to look into the royal mirror, the law of God, that we may understand our moral standing, and detect the imperfections of our character; then we are to appropriate the righteousness of Christ, that we may keep the law of God.

As we realize the worthlessness of our own righteousness, as we feel our dependence upon Christ, we fall upon the Rock and are broken, and then Jesus moulds and fashions our characters after His Own Divine character. Let us all bear in mind that those whom God pardons are first made penitent. Some will say that we leave man with nothing to do, with no task to take up in the struggle.

This is not so . . . all the powers with which God has endowed man must be employed in order that we may do the will of God. {ST, August 11, 1890 par. 5}

Quote -

“Some of our brethren have expressed fears that we shall dwell too much upon the subject of justification* by faith, but I hope and pray that none will be needlessly alarmed; for there is no danger in presenting this doctrine as it is set forth in the Scriptures.

If there had not been a remissness in the past to properly instruct the people of God, there would not now be a necessity of calling a special attention to it.... The exceeding great and precious promises given us in the Holy Scriptures have been lost sight of to a great extent, **just as the enemy** of all righteousness designed that they should be. He has cast his own dark shadow between us and our God, that we may not see the true character of God. The Lord has proclaimed Himself to be "merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth."

Several have written to me, inquiring if the message of justification* (to render, to declare innocent, holy, righteous) by faith is the third angel's message, and I have answered, **“It is the third angel’s message, in verity !”**

The Review and Herald, April 1, 1890. {1SM 372.2}

Quote -

“What is justification by faith? -- It is the work of God in laying the glory of man in the dust, and doing for man that which it is not in his power to do for himself. When men see their own nothingness, *then* they are prepared to be clothed with the righteousness of Christ. When they begin to praise and exalt God all the day long, then by beholding they are becoming changed into the same image. **What is regeneration?** -- It is revealing to man what is his own real nature, that in himself he is worthless.

- {SpTA09 62.2}

Quote -

“It is by living faith in Christ as our personal Saviour that His righteousness is imputed to us.

note: [believing with our hearts, and confessing with our mouths that He died to save me, even me. That His victories are mine, His death is mine, and His glorious resurrection is mine Not because I feel so, but because He has spoken it, therefore it must be true !].

In the parable of the supper, when the king came in to examine the guests, he found a man who had not **on the wedding garment**. He had accepted the invitation to the marriage feast, but had cast contempt upon his host in not laying aside his own garment for the wedding robe provided for him. There are many who are represented by this man. They have accepted the invitation to the marriage supper, but have failed to comply with the conditions for entrance to the feast. They will not lay aside the garments of their own self-righteousness, and put on the robe prepared for them at an infinite price.

They have accepted the theory of the Truth (John 17:17 and I Thessalonians 2:13), but they do not possess and cultivate the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. They do not appropriate the Truth (the verity of the Word and promises of God) to their individual needs, and become partakers of the Divine nature. They are not willing to have the earthliness removed from their character, in order that the heavenly graces may be imparted.

They will be speechless before the King when He comes in to examine the guests, and asks them why they have not put on the righteousness of Christ.

- Youth Instructor, October 28, 1897 par. 1}

Quote -

“Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us meet to appear in God's presence. This covering, the robe of His own righteousness, Christ will put upon every repenting, believing soul. “I counsel thee,” He says, “to buy of Me . . . white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear.” Revelation 3:18.

This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us. ref: II Corinthians 4:10-11*

“All our righteousness are as filthy rags.” Isaiah 64:6. Everything that we of ourselves can do is defiled by sin. But the Son of God “was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.” **Daniel 9:24**. Sin is defined to be “the transgression of the law.” 1 John 3:5, 4. But Christ was obedient to every requirement of the law. He said of Himself, “I delight to do Thy will, O My God; yea, Thy law is within My heart.” Psalm 40:8.

When on earth, He said to His disciples, “I have kept My Father’s commandments.” John 15:10. **By His perfect obedience** He has made it possible for every human being to obey God’s commandments (Hebrews 10:4-14).* When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness. Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah.

- Christ Object Lessons, p.311